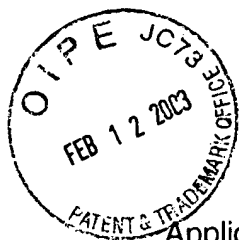


3761

PATENT
0445-0271P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masahito TANAKA et al. Conf.: 2395
Appl. No.: 09/147,894 Group: 3761
Filed: March 23, 1999 Examiner: Karin M. REICHLE
For: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

RECEIVED

FEB 20 2003

LETTER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

February 12, 2003

Sir:

On February 11, 2003, Applicants were informed by the Examiner that the Amendment submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 8, 2002 is not in the files at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Attached hereto please find a copy of the Amendment and Letter to the Official Draftsperson which were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 8, 2002. Also enclosed is a stamped postcard indicating that the Amendment and Letter to the Official Draftsperson were received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 8, 2002.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Office Action dated August 9, 2002 was timely responded to by the due date of November 9, 2002. In view of this, it is believed that no fees are necessary in conjunction with the entry of the Amendment dated November 8, 2002.

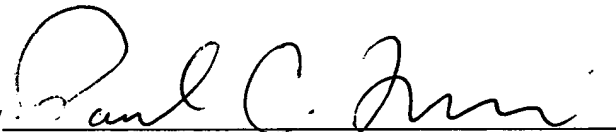
Favorable consideration and allowance of the Amendment and Letter to the Official Draftsperson dated November 8, 2002 are respectfully requested.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: 

John W. Bailey

For Reg. No. 32,881 #43,368

JWB/PCL/cl

P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

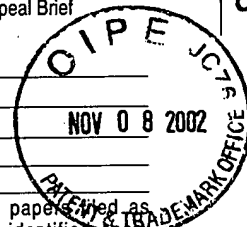
Attachment: Copy of stamped postcard receipt dated November 8, 2002
Copy of Amendment and Letter to the Official Draftsperson filed
November 8, 2002

Papers Filed herewith on: Nov. 8, 02
DOCKET NO.: 0445-0271P
ATTY.: JWB1 PCL
APPLICANT(S): Masahito TANAKA et al
USSN: 09/147,894 FILED: 3-23-99
PAT NO.: _____

- ☐ New Application with Transmittal Letter
☐ Utility ☐ Design ☐ CIP ☐ PCT ☐ Provisional
☐ Filing Under 37 CFR 1.53(b) ☐ CONT ☐ DIV
☐ Filing Under 37 CFR 1.53(d) (CPA)
☐ Specification Consisting of: _____ pages
☐ Combined Declaration & Power of Attorney
☐ Assignment / Cover Letter
☒ Letter to Official Draftsman
☒ Drawings 1 Sheets ☐ Formal ☐ Informal ☒ Red-Ink
☐ Completion of Filing Requirements, PCT/DO/EO/905
or PTO-1533 and Executed Declaration
☐ Priority Document(s) / Cover Letter, No. Doc. _____
☒ Amendment:
☒ Transmittal Ltr ☒ Large Entity ☐ Small Entity
☐ Response
☐ Information Discl Stmt. PTO-1449(s) _____ doc(s)
☐ Notice of Appeal ☐ Appeal Brief
☐ Issue Fee Transmittal
☐ FEES: _____
☐ Letter: _____
☐ Other: _____

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as
indicated in connection with the above identified case.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Due Date: 11-9-02
Handcarry: _____

DOCKET NO. 0445-0271P



COPY

RECEIVED
FEB 20 2003

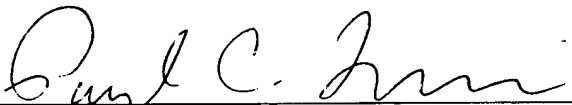
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

- ☐ Petition for () month(s) extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). \$0.00 for the extension of time.
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ Check(s) in the amount of \$0.00 is(are) enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. This form is submitted in triplicate.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
John W. Bailey, #32,881

For #43,368
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

JWB/PCL/cl
0445-0271P

Attachment(s)

(Rev. 10/15/02)

PATENT
0445-0271P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Masahito TANAKA et al.	Conf.:	2395
Appl. No.:	09/147,894	Group:	3761
Filed:	March 23, 1999	Examiner:	Karin M. REICHLE
For:	ABSORBENT ARTICLE		

LETTER TO OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON

COPY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

November 8, 2002

Sir:


It is respectfully requested that the Examiner approve the drawing corrections attached hereto. The drawing corrections include the addition of Figures 15 and 16 which are clearly supported by the original disclosure. Upon approval of the drawing corrections by the Examiner, the changes would be made by a draftsman employed by the undersigned

Appl. No. 09/147,894

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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#43,368
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Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
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JWB/PCL/mua/cl
0445-0271P

Attachment: Figures 15 and 16

(Rev. 06/13/02)